Town of Washington

Inland Wetlands Commission

August 9, 2023

Regular Meeting

Hybrid

MINUTES

**Members Present:** Mr. Papsin, Mr. Gendron, Ms. Audet, Mr. Koppel, Alt.

**Via Zoom:** Ms. Anthony-Bogue

**Members Absent:** Mr. Bennett, Ms. Dubow, Alt.

**Public Present:** Lisa Turoczi, Jim McTigue, Brian Neff, P.E

**Public Present Via Zoom:** Ann Jamieson (Press – Voices), Susan Payne, Peter Talbot, Michael Cesari, Other Members of the Public

**Regular Business:**

Chair Papsin called the meeting to order at 7:03pm.

**Members Seated:** Mr. Papsin, Ms. Audet, Mr. Gendron, Ms. Anthony-Bogue, Mr. Koppel (for Mr. Bennett)

**Consideration of the Minutes:**

The following corrections were submitted for the July 26, 2023 Regular Meeting Minutes:

On page two under, “Turoczi for Baldwin/257 West Shore Rd.”, sentence two, delete “opening of a pre-existing berm”.

Page two, sentence four, remove “already present rocks”, as these rocks are not currently present.

**Motion:** To approve the Regular Meeting Minutes: 7-26-2023 as amended, by Mr. Gendron, seconded by Mr. Koppel, passed by 5-0 vote.

**Motion:** To approve the Special Meeting Minutes: 8-02-2023 Site Inspection Report for 257 West Shore Rd. - submitted by C. Koppel – #IW-23-50, as submitted, by Ms. Audet, seconded by Mr. Gendron, passed by 5-0 vote.

**Motion:** To approve the Special Meeting Minutes: 8-02-2023 Site Inspection Report for 198 Tinker Hill Rd. - submitted by L. Gendron - #IW-23-51, as submitted, by Ms. Audet, seconded by Mr. Koppel, passed 5-0 vote.

**Motion:** To approve the Special Meeting Minutes: 8-02-2023 Site Inspection Report for 137 West Shore Rd., submitted by J. Anthony-Bogue - #IW-23-52, as submitted, by Mr. Gendron, seconded by Ms. Audet, passed 5-0 vote.

**Motion to Include Subsequent Business Not Already on the Agenda:**

None

**Pending Applications:**

**Cesari/99 West Shore Rd/Application for Permit #IW-23-40/replace existing dock:**

**Members Seated:** Mr. Papsin, Ms. Audet, Ms. Anthony-Bogue, Mr. Gendron and Mr. Koppel for Mr. Bennett.

Mr. Cesari, owner of 99 West Shore Road, was present via Zoom.

The Commission was given drawings supplied by Mr. Cesari of the current dock and the proposed dock. Mr. Cesari explained that the footprint of the new dock is smaller, but the area is greater, due to the new main surface being deeper. The Commission decided a Site Walk, preferably with Mr. Cesari present, would need to take place. The Site Walk will take place on Monday, August 21, 2023 at 4:00pm.

**Turoczi for Baldwin/257 West Shore Rd/Application for Permit #IW-23-50/ to remove invasive and girdled tree, replace with native tree, build a bio swale/ raingarden, and install native plants:**

**Members Seated:** Mr. Papsin, Ms. Audet, Ms. Anthony-Bogue, Mr. Gendron and Mr. Koppel for Mr. Bennett.

Ms. Turoczi of Earth Tones, LLC was present to represent the owners of 257 West Shore.

She presented the Commission with a new planting plan that included a North Arrow and a 5 (five) year maintenance plan as the Commission had requested. The stone along the shoreline that was not in the water was now removed from the plan.

The Commission requested that Ms. Turoczi/Earth Tones, LLC oversee the training of the property owner’s maintenance person. The property owner will also be responsible for maintaining or replacement of any dead material.

**Motion:** To approve the application for Permit #IW-23-50 –Baldwin - 257 West Shore Road – to remove invasive and girdled tree, replace with tree, build a bio swale/raingarden, and install native plants, as shown in the planting plan by Earth Tones, LLC, dated July 17, 2023 with a revised date of August 9, 2023 with accompanying documentation. This permit is valid for five (5) years and is subject to the following conditions: 1. that the Land Use Office be notified 48 hours prior to the commencement of work so the Wetlands Enforcement Officer can inspect and approve the erosion control measures, 2. that the property owner gives the contractor copies of both the motion of approval and approved plans prior to the commencement of work, 3. the approval of this permit is conditioned upon the performance and completion of all proposed activities and/or improvements in totality to the satisfaction of the Inland Wetlands Commission. 4. The property owner shall be responsible for the replacement of any dead material 5. Earth Tones, LLC shall oversee the training of employees maintaining the project. There shall not be any modification of any kind to the plans and/or scope/sequence of the proposed activities and/or improvements shown on the approved plans without prior approval of the Inland Wetlands Commission or its designee. In approving this application, the Commission has considered all of the relevant criteria pursuant to Sections 11.02, 11A and 12.08 of the Inland Wetlands and Watercourse Regulations and finds that the proposed regulated activities as presented on the plans and conditioned herein, are not reasonably likely to lead to significant adverse impacts on any wetlands and watercourses, by Mr. Kopel, seconded by Ms. Audet, passed by 5-0 vote.

**Arthur H. Howland & Associates for Stiteler/198 Tinker Hill/Application for Permit #IW-23- 51/ Proposed construction of a previously approved accessory structure, driveway, well, raingarden, grading, drainage and other related appurtenances:**

**Members Seated:** Mr. Papsin, Ms. Audet, Ms. Anthony-Bogue, Mr. Gendron and Mr. Koppel for Mr. Bennett.

Mr. McTigue of Arthur H. Howland and Associates, representative for the property owners of 198 Tinker Hill Road, presented the Commission with revised plans. The revised plans included marked trees, a maintenance schedule, notes on the raingarden (changed “should” to “shall”), as well as the addition of two stock piling locations. Mr. McTigue explained that the site disturbance would be very limited, so there was no intention to use the areas, however, they will be marked on the plan for the contractor.

As for the grading, Mr. McTigue added that the contractor will add silt fence check dams every 50 feet along the accessway until vegetation is established.

The driveway will be paved. There will be a full basement, as well as an A/C unit, generator and 1000-gallon propane tank.

Mr. McTigue added that there will be spare erosion control materials stored on the property at all times in case of emergency, including 150-feet of silt fencing, at least 20 hay bales and 10 cubic yards of rip-rap. Mr. Papsin questioned where the rip-rap would be stored. Mr. McTigue explained that the storage areas noted on the plan would be where the materials would be kept.

Mr. McTigue explained that there was not a planting plan for the property, as trees were not allowed within 10-feet of the septic system that will be located in that area. The accessway will be seeded and vegetated when the job is complete. Stabilization measures will be taken to protect the water course.

Chair Papsin questioned what material would be used for the anti-tracking pad and if paper would be used under it, with strictly crushed gravel used to filter down to the soil. Ms. Audet requested that trenching be added to the plan in regards to the generator and propane tank. This proposal still needs Health Department approval. The Commission decided to do another Site Walk to observe the newly marked trees that will be taken down.

The Site Walk will take place on Friday, August 18, 2023 at 3:30pm.

**Brian Neff, P.E. for Levande/ 137 West Shore Road/Application for Permit #IW-23-52/filling and grading lawn area north of the septic leaching field, blend and reduce grade slope:**

**Members Seated:** Mr. Papsin, Ms. Audet, Ms. Anthony-Bogue, Mr. Gendron and Mr. Koppel for Mr. Bennett.

**Motion:** To approve the application for Permit #IW-23-52 –Lavande - 137 West Shore Road – filling and grading lawn area north of the septic leaching field, blend and reduce grade slope, as shown in the plan dated June 12, 2023 with a revision date of July 21, 2023 by Brian E. Neff, P.E, with accompanying documentation. This permit is valid for two (2) years and is subject to the following conditions: 1. that the Land Use Office be notified 48 hours prior to the commencement of work so the Wetlands Enforcement Officer can inspect and approve the erosion control measures, 2. that the property owner gives the contractor copies of both the motion of approval and approved plans prior to the commencement of work, 3. the approval of this permit is conditioned upon the performance and completion of all proposed activities and/or improvements in totality to the satisfaction of the Inland Wetlands Commission. There shall not be any modification of any kind to the plans and/or scope/sequence of the proposed activities and/or improvements shown on the approved plans without prior approval of the Inland Wetlands Commission or its designee. In approving this application, the Commission has considered all of the relevant criteria pursuant to Sections 11.02, 11A and 12.08 of the Inland Wetlands and Watercourse Regulations and finds that the proposed regulated activities as presented on the plans and conditioned herein, are not reasonably likely to lead to significant adverse impacts on any wetlands and watercourses, by Mr. Kopel, seconded by Mr. Gendron, passed by 5-0 vote.

**New Applications to be Received by the Commission:**

**Pushlar for Harris/254 New Milford Turnpike/Application #IW-23-54 to modify Permit #IW-22-23/additional planting, light post, and fencing, fencing and light post location in URA:**

The Commission accepted the Application and scheduled a Site Walk for Friday, August 18, 2023 immediately following the previously scheduled Site Walk (approximately 4:15pm).

**B. Neff for Ingrassia/46 Christian Street/Application #IW-23-55 to modify Permit #IW-22-11/Correction of Zoning rear yard encroachment with A/C units, and finish landscape work:**

The Commission accepted the Application.

Mr. Neff, representing the property owner of 46 Christian street, explained that his clients are proposing a modification to a previous permit that includes the relocation of four total A/C units that will correct a compliance issue, and finalizing landscape work. This will include the planting of trees and a paver stone patio.

The Commission scheduled a Site Walk for Friday, August 18, 2023 immediately following the previously scheduled Site Walk.

**Other Business:**

There was no other business.

**Enforcement and Compliance Initiatives:**

Ms. Haverstock reported that after the heavy rain received earlier in the week, she visited Lake Waramaug to inspect for any damage the rains may have caused. Thankfully, there were only a few minor issues that were remediated by the contractors on site.

One Notice of Violation was given since the last meeting for 4 Perkins Road.

**Administrative Business:**

No Administrative Business for this meeting.

**Communications:**

No Communications for this meeting

**Adjournment:**

**Motion:** To adjourn the August 9, 2023 Washington Inland Wetlands Commission meeting at 8:15pm, by Ms. Audet, seconded by Mr. Koppel, approved unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Tammy Rill

Land Use Clerk

8-11-2023

\*Minutes Filed, subject to approval

Meeting Recording can be found here:

<https://townofwashingtongcc-my.sharepoint.com/:u:/g/personal/trill_washingtonct_org/EQZo0LGFmNhHmBRK_z3eLrsBEKWGo7lhdAvmVUEaW6mYXQ?e=QKBeSf>